

**CITY OF KANKAKEE
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
SUMMARY OF MINUTES
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8TH, 2020
7:00 P.M.**

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I will call the meeting to order. Meetings are accessible to the public through Comcast Channel 4, City of Kankakee YouTube Channel and the City of Kankakee Website. Because we are under mitigation efforts with the State of Illinois, the meetings will be conducted this month via zoom. We should have an update by Governor Pritzker tomorrow I believe a call is scheduled tomorrow for the Mayor's to get an update. So of course, I will keep you all updated as well. So, with that being said the meeting is called to order. We will move on to prayer by Reverend Alderman Michael Prude of Second Baptist Church and move on to the Pledge of Allegiance led by Alderman Crawford joined by City Council Members. Okay, so just so I prepare everybody we have a full meeting tonight and a lot of public comments so if you need to grab some water. I'm will go through everything accordingly. Item 4 Public Comments, due to COVID-19 is social distancing the city of Kankakee has modified the procedures in order to accept public comments. Comments are to be emailed to publiccomment@citykankakee-il.gov by 3:00 P.M. today. I think we got in about 40 or so. Before we get started with public comments as you all suspect many of them are related to the homeless shelter proposal. We do have Bruce Larson on the line Bruce Larson is the engineer working on the weekend Ricky Rockets Project and they wanted to provide an update for everybody tonight so I'm going to go ahead and turn it over to Bruce at this time.

BRUCE LARSON: Thank you Mayor I appreciate being the first one on the call. As the meeting and not the last one. Thank you. I want to bring everybody up to date. I know there's been discussion between our engineers, Neil Piggish, our attorneys, and Burt Odelson. Just to clarify everything. First of all, I'll just start with a general statement. Heiner properties is definitely committed in the Heiner family to moving ahead with this project. Just to explain why there has been, I think some confusion in everything I've heard from the engineers everybody else. We've increased the

size of the project. The, the dollar, the square footage. We're now going to build with our future outlet building about 27,250, square feet of buildings, which is up from the original 16,000, our project cost is a little over \$20 million. Right now, what we're waiting for to submit drawings, is this. We're waiting for, we're in negotiations with two large national chains to come there, fast food. And as soon as we finished the negotiations which should have been last week, but it's ongoing right now. As soon as we are done with that, we will finish the design of the main building which will have a fast food on the building. As we call it the C store, and a 50 to 150 square foot restaurant. Our C store are a little bigger we're putting in a shower, a lounge for the truckers in the truck stop, and of course our carwash, and then the future out lot will be approximately, 7000, square feet of retail space, we've met a challenge with our engineering. Your engineer has been extremely helpful. And we've we resolved all of our issues. So, at this point in time, my timeline is this within the next week to two, we will turn our architects over for their final design, which is about a 60-day process. They say it's less, But I'm a realist is 60 days. Then we submit for permit and I don't think that'll take very long I think we have a very nice city to deal with. After that we're going to break ground. We are not going to wait for the winter. We are going to break ground as soon as we receive a permit. Our financing, we are presently in negotiations with two financial institutions. I should have had an answer. Last week, but everybody decided to go away for the holiday so we are very close. We've already spent between the property purchase in the last group of work that we did, you know, we've already got close to \$4 million invested. That doesn't enter into the 20 million it's going to cost us from where we sit today. So, we've got a lot of money invested. We've got skin in the game. And we're just going through a process...with the city, but just what it takes to build a project of this size. So, if anybody has any questions. I'm here to answer.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. If you can raise your hand and then I will acknowledge you and give you the floor if anybody has a question I'm checking both screen. Most of you are blacked out. Does anybody have any questions.

ALD BROWN: Yeah, I do.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, Alderman Brown you have the floor.

ALD BROWN:

I want to know when the project's decided to go from the original to the 20 million?

BRUCE LARSON:

Well, in the design. I just took over the construction duties for all of the Heiner properties a little over a year ago, And it was not very efficient to have the separate out lot building. We wanted to have that attached to what we call a C store, because that way it just, it just allows the flow in the business, rather than go, the people that go to a single unit that they're gonna drive up to, not really going to want to come in this way, they can go from one store to the other. We decided to add a little bigger restaurant, because we believe it'll. We believe it'll work. And we just want to try to maximize as much as we can, because we do believe and we are committed to that this will be a very successful. One of our most successful sites. We have sites this size in Texas. We have one, not this big, but close to it in Midlothian which I think maybe some of you might have seen, but I just want to maximize the site. And we believe the investment will be worth it for us.

ALD BROWN:

Thank you.

BRUCE LARSON:

One thing I do want to comment on. And we also believe. Not that and again, I was not in any of the original discussions. But I do believe that with the city adding more funds for more road improvements shows that everybody on your side and our site is very committed to us. So, for Mr. Heiner to invest that kind of money in a project tells him we are comfortable and with the city, with the area, and we think it will be successful. So that's why I decided to maximize as much as possible.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, you guys are coming back now. Anybody else have any questions. If you could raise your hand. Alderman Tetter you have the floor.

ALD TETTER:

Thank you. Larson. This has been a long time coming. I appreciate you guys, staying the course. The city is really looking forward to this, especially on the east side, and the city at large. But my question is, do you have an estimated time of completion?

BRUCE LARSON:

We start this year, we will come, we will be completed by fourth quarter of next year, we can't afford to drag this out.

We're doing a project presently which we've mentioned before, in Hickory Hills. We started two weeks ago, actually three weeks ago tomorrow. We had all the foundation's in for two buildings, three buildings, actually. We have our bricklayer started already and we have one of our storm tracks (inaudible) and so far we are ahead of schedule. Money is too expensive for us to drag. We can't afford to start and drag it out for over a year is, it's impossible and we have to finish. We know we have the winter but we believe that we, you know, I've been doing this 49-years. I started when I was one. And we can't afford to waste time. We don't...I invite you to call any call the Building Commissioner at Hickory Hills and, and he'll tell you exactly what we're doing. We are going to use the same contractor which is George Solid. They built the Armory project for you on the, on the east side of the expressway into the armory improvement airfields been a year or so ago. Yes. You know, I'm not familiar with the project. So that's the quality of people we're bringing to this. They've been in business since 1836 and, you know, they, they do large projects. This is why we get people g these people involved. But basic answer to your question is before the quarter of next year.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Alderman Osenga you have the floor,

ALD OSENGA:

Thank you. Sir, will you guys be making an effort to reach out to local contractors and our minority contractors to give them some of the work that's going to be involved in this project.

BRUCE LARSON:

Absolutely. We want it we have on most projects that we do our general contractor which like I say, from what I understand, is a very good reputation. From the project that he did in your village, as whatever and thats what everybody tells me, and we absolutely. And let's just take the dollars and cents. Local contractor is doing to give me a better price than a guy that is travel, two hours. One wage day to do a job for me. I mean that's just that's just plain economics of course we're gonna reach out to everybody, it's open to anybody and everybody there. There's no favored contractor. We don't have any favorite subs, in our organization. The ones that make them favorite are the ones that perform, that's what makes you favorite with me. And right now, we feel that the local contractors will be the best fit.

ALD OSENGA:

Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Anybody else? Okay. Alright, Bruce thank you for joining us this evening with the update, and we will be doing our regular checking as Burt had told me you all have secured your financing. So, I did put that in my update to city council. Elizabeth and I spoke with Burt again today. As far as you are looking at two sources so...

BRUCE LARSON:

And all that is, is time to funding and the magic interest rate. I'll be honest with you. And any question you have I think you have my phone numbers but if not get them from Burt. Anytime you can contact me any questions, any of the Aldermen or anyone has a question of why something isn't done, or it is done, or we heard a rumor. Call me. I'm a big on the phone communication guy. I'm not. I'm not a big email communication person. If you don't have enough respect to call somebody in person. That's the way I feel about it. But I think that's because I'm an old timer. You need me, call me any anybody here, and I'm sure you can circulate my number. I'll answer any question any time. And I appreciate you making me first. That definitely makes me feel good tonight.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright, thank you for joining us.

BRUCE LARSON:

And thank you for having me. And let me say something. This is the best way. You know, it only took me five minutes to get here from Bloomingdale. Thank you very much. In, anytime.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Take care. Have a good night. We'll stay updated. We're at Public Comments. Okay. To start, and as I stated, we do have quite a few.

LANCE MARCZAK:

Mayor, you say in the newspaper you want to build bridges with the community, that is a good headline. But when exactly is that going to start? When exactly are you going to help build that bridge and Stand up for the businesses like restaurants and bars that are restricted from being open? It is amazing how many families are being impacted, everyday people that own and or work in the restaurants/bars. The COVID numbers in Kankakee County do not justify the imposed restrictions! All of the people

impacted will never recover what was lost, and they may even lose everything. Go talk with some of the owners. We are not Cook County! We are not Will County! We are in fact Kankakee County! The time for leadership is now, You would rather impose a Mask Ordinance and a fee for violation further restricting people's rights rather than doing what is right. Look at the numbers look at the facts! You can stand with us or stand opposed! Go ahead and pass the Mask fee ordinance will see how well that money grab works out. We have shooting going on, we have ATV's running through the streets and you want to fine normal citizens in the city of Kankakee for not having a mask on! My God, talk about priorities. I asked you the question the other night on your video chat and you did not answer? So, I will ask it again! When are you going to stand up for every struggling business being impacted in this community? When will the city stand with the Kankakee county board and our state representative that opposes the tyranny and the restrictions? You say you want to start building bridges in the community. The foundation on which you want to build a bridge should be the businesses that are being impacted by COVID numbers in Kankakee not any other county! Start with building the bridge to the community by standing with the business owners and open them. Now is the time to act like a leader you can stand united with the county board, and the State representative to open the businesses up in the city of Kankakee, or you can continue to burn the very bridges for which you are standing on. Thank you

CELIA :

I have been a resident of Kankakee for over 15 years. In the 15+ years that I have been here, I have never had as much interaction with a mayor as I have had with Mayor Wells-Armstrong. I want to give thanks because all the information that comes from Facebook and the website is in Spanish. I can finally be aware of what is happening in Kankakee. I went to the information event and learned a lot about the services Kankakee offers. Everyone who was at that presentation was very friendly and knowledgeable. I want to thank Linh and Jasmyne for connecting with me and helping me with forms even though they don't speak Spanish. I also want to thank the mayor for her event and for the raffle that helped us with food for the week. It feels good to be included in this community. Keep going. Thank you.

LINDA REGNIER:

My thoughts on Homeless Shelters The Gift of God Street Church/Rescue Mission is located on North 5th Avenue in Kankakee. It is a facility that operates completely on contributions from generous benefactors without Federal, State or Grant money. Besides donations of money, local citizens drop off clothing, food in form of dinners on monthly or weekly basis, personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies. Various local businesses have donated roofing supplies and labor, furnished flooring for the Chapel and donated kitchen appliances and much more as needs occur. Local farmers and gardeners bring in fresh vegetables throughout the summer. Landscapers have updated the driveways in front of the Church/Rescue Mission, and meat lockers have given sides of meat to keep the daily hot meals available. Bakeries and restaurants bring a variety of bread and desserts. If not for the generosity of these contributors, The Gift of God Street Church would not be able to continue services to the areas homeless. There is no Church dollars given to Pastor Ed Kannapel or his spouse. They daily work in the shelter is also done as a donation. This is the type of Homeless Shelter that our community needs.

BRIAN NOE:

I would urge our City Council to vote to approve the Fortitude Community Outreach shelter location in Downtown Kankakee. Having a single location available, 7 nights a week, is not only in the best interests of the homeless people being sheltered. It's also in the best interests of Downtown businesses and our community as a whole. It's the right thing, and also the smart thing. Thanks!

CAROL SZYNAL:

I am a resident of Kankakee in the third ward. I support a shelter St. Paul's old building in Kankakee. Please vote yes.

DAWN BROERS:

Last year I stood before you pleading for a conditional use permit so we could provide shelter at a site within a residential neighborhood. As expected, we faced opposition from local residents who did not want a shelter so close to where they live. We asked you to trust us and you granted us one year to prove ourselves. And we did that. At the August Planning Board meeting, Mike Hoffman reported that not only were there no problems, but at least one opponent admitted he was wrong to oppose. Perhaps it was because of this experience that I did

not at all expect opposition from the business community when we proposed a shelter site quite removed from residential neighborhoods. So, you might imagine how heartbroken I was to hear that this time we face opposition from the commercial district. We appreciate the money and efforts put into the downtown area as much as anyone else, and we believe in the Kankakee Forward initiative. We simply believe that the Kankakee Forward initiative can and should be for everyone in Kankakee, and that we can be a part of this. Last week, in a meeting with local homeless providers, city employee Barbie Brewer Watson, discussed the city's desire to improve homeless services and initiate a Task Force on homelessness. She set forth a President Jimmy Carter quote as a basis for these efforts: "The measure of a society is found in how they treat their weakest and most helpless citizens". We fully agree. We are offering you a chance to improve how we treat our weakest and most helpless citizens...we are simply asking for your approval to do so. The Planning Board voted unanimously to recommend that the City Council approve this conditional use permit. Many of them had heard the concerns about a shelter downtown—fears of loitering homeless and an increase of troublesome behavior. But after listening to the facts, Planning Board member Deb Terrill stated what mirrors our own belief. She stated: "when you are downtown and you are accosted by people...it makes you not want to come back downtown. But, what I'm realizing is that at the same time that the aggressive or possibly dangerous people...that are currently creating problems, especially the aggressive people downtown...it won't be helped by this shelter and won't be taken off the street, ***nor will the presence of the shelter contribute to that.*** It's kind of like the difference between the protestors and the looters. There are people who are not homeless that are down there causing the problems, but they are all *viewed* as homeless, and it's hard to differentiate for us on whether this is a homeless person that's coming up and demanding that I give them money...or it's just a person who's...got issues. So, I think that we need to be cognizant of that in making this decision, that making the decision to allow the shelter is not going to contribute to this problem because the *problem exists outside the shelter*... I feel like that problem is something that needs to be addressed by the police department and the city administration...I'm thinking now that it makes perfect sense to approve this and address the

problem that exists outside the Fortitude shelter as what it is: *a separate problem.*” Some aldermen have heard from a very small, but vocal minority of St. Paul’s Church members who oppose the shelter. It is normal and expected that any vote regarding the homeless will likely have opposition. Some of these individuals disagree with our sheltering model, believing that homeless services should not be provided without also mandating engagement in religious services. However, we are not a federally designated religious organization, and we believe shelter is a basic human right whether or not you engage in prayer or Bible study. Some have based opposition based on false reports from one individual who consistently refused to follow our policies and boundaries and is no longer working with Fortitude. It is *not true* that the St. Paul’s congregation was railroaded or forced into this vote: 80% voted in favor in a blind vote. We have asked a lot of this Council and this city, and we thank you for taking a leap of faith and taking political risks to support us, but you have asked a lot of us too. City officials, hospitals, police, churches... You want us there when it is cold and someone has nowhere to go, *and we are happy to help you.* For a small organization with a tiny budget and one full time employee, we have moved mountains to do our very best to serve this community. Today, we once again ask you to take a leap of faith. To us, *approving a one year permit* seems like a perfect compromise. We couldn’t possibly do too much damage to economic development in one 7 month shelter season, but we could greatly contribute to community development. You can reassess our impact next summer. Such a vote shows our opposition that you are listening to *their* concerns while simultaneously caring for your most helpless citizens. Give us a chance to show you that we can be a beneficial partner in the Kankakee Forward initiative. Let your vote be for humanity today. Let it reflect your desire to be person-centered, and to move Kankakee Forward for EVERYONE.

MARY SLACK:

I appreciate the efforts put forth by Fortitude in acquiring a shelter in downtown Kankakee. However, there is a fully equipped shelter less than 2 miles from downtown at The Gift of God Street Church, which has been in existence for over 15 years. The longevity of Gift of God can be attributed to several factors. Pastor Ed Kannapel responds to calls from the police and hospitals at all hours of the day and night concerning those without shelter. He works

closely to follow the regulations of requiring drug tests and background checks (alpha reports). If a client leaves for the day, another drug test may be performed when they return for dinner if drug/alcohol use is suspected. The alpha reports keep Gift of God free from being a place where someone goes to avoid the police. It would be fruitless to only provide food and shelter and allow abusive continuous behavior to exist during the day. By using drug tests and alpha reports, The Gift of God is a safe environment for those who stay with us. In addition to working closely with the police, The Gift of God also has several resources available to the clients. If we don't have the needed information, Pastor Ed works hand in hand with several agencies in Kankakee County who offer their help whenever it's needed. All of these practices provide the clients help all year long...not just 24/7 but 365 days. Thank you for your time.

THERESE SCHULTZ:

Council Members I am writing to support the St. Paul's site for a homeless shelter. I have volunteered with Fortitude since January of 2019. I have seen and been approached by individuals, asking for money, when at various businesses. None of those individuals were any of those we have served at the different shelter sites for the homeless. I have confidence that, with the regulations set up by the Director of Fortitude, individuals served will understand that loitering will only diminish their chances of being able to continue being allowed to stay. I need to add that I live in the same ward in which the site is located. The St. Paul's Congregation voted and passed the proposal with a majority of 80% of those voting agreeing. The planning committee unanimously supported it. In addition, those against the request have not offered any concrete alternatives for other sites to accomplish this goal. I heartily support the allowance of this proposal to pass.

JOHN N. PEETERS:

As a pastor who has had multiple occasions to deal with homeless people over the years, I would like to add my endorsement to the establishment of a permanent homeless shelter near Downtown Kankakee as is being currently proposed by Fortitude Community Outreach.

ANN BERNES:

I live on East Water Street in the 2nd Ward. I would like to encourage all of you to vote in support of Fortitude Outreach and the shelter site at St Paul's. I have been a volunteer at Fortitude most Saturday nights the last two

shelter seasons. I can tell you that the people I see hanging around downtown are not the same people that come to the shelter. Therefore, if you reject the shelter site at St Paul's you're not really solving any problems downtown. On the other hand, when you approve the site, as the planning board did unanimously, you will solve many problems for the guests that utilize the shelter. Most of the guests work during the day, but only have access to a shower once a week. Can you imagine what a difference it would make for them to be able to shower every day at St. Paul's? The guests would have an address to put on job or apartment applications. They would be closer to public transportation and social services. Fortitude is not asking for any public funds. They only need your approval. I've heard people say "not in my backyard" but I already have people living under the bridge a block from my house, they live on the bike trail down the street from my house, they live in the park by my school. As a community we need to do better. Thank you.

HEATHER HULL:

Good afternoon! I am a resident of Kankakee County and supporter of the rejuvenation of our local spaces. I also support the passage of the conditional use permit for Fortitude to utilize St. Paul's Lutheran Church's school building as a seven-day shelter. As a frequent volunteer with the ministry, I have seen Fortitude interact with guests with respect and evidence-based interventions. The community surrounding the shelter can expect that same level of respect from the organization. This permit is an opportunity to say that helping Kankakee grow applies to everyone—from the lowest influence to the highest. That is the Kankakee County community I would like to be a part of. Thank you.

STEPHEN HUSAK:

Having been a past Executive Director of the Kankakee County Economic Development Association, and a supporter and volunteer of Fortitude Community Outreach, I believe having this site will be a community asset and an incentive for future business enterprises desiring to locate their business in a community that cares for all its citizens.

ROSE M. KEEPER:

Kankakee Forward For Everyone!
#approvefortitudeshelter

MATTHEW HESS:

I live in the Fourth ward and work in the City of Kankakee.

I am a counselor by practice and a social worker by heart. I am writing to urge the city council to approve the conditional use permit of St. Paul's school building to be used by Fortitude Community Outreach for the purpose of a permanent shelter location. I have been on the board of directors for Fortitude for a few years now and have seen all facets of the amazing organization that is Fortitude Community Outreach. I know firsthand the passion that it's director, Dawn, its volunteers and all those who deliver the organization's mission. Most importantly, I've witnessed the value of relationships that Dawn has placed at the center of the mission since day one. Not conditional relationships that require work or commitments of the guests during their most vulnerable moments, the worst moments of their lives. But relationships that are taught in my field of study; unconditional positive regard, autonomy, dignity, unconditional respect. As a resident of Kankakee, a frequent patron of the exciting development downtown, and as a human being, I think bringing this shelter downtown is not only the right thing to do, but also a necessity in the invigoration of downtown. All thriving cities take care of their most vulnerable. Thriving cities don't attempt to hide their homeless, they embrace them and provide resources to eliminate their strife. Kankakee Forward is a great vision. Kankakee Forward means forward for EVERYONE. As a board member I am writing to offer that Fortitude can help where it is capable to address the concerns of members of the council. The shelter currently provides overnight safety from the harsh winter weather from 6:30pm-7:30am and a static, centralized location allows us to do that 7 nights a week. A permanent location allows us to move efforts from shuffling supplies from site to site and, instead, put effort into providing better quality services to our guests in obtaining full-time jobs, housing, and other resources they so desperately need to get out of their current situation and move FORWARD! Fortitude can work together with downtown businesses to address concerns. *That* is truly beautifying Downtown Kankakee. Please consider voting in support of the conditional use permit for Fortitude's Permanent Shelter location at St. Paul's. Thank you!

REV. BUSHY & REV YOUNGBLOOD: We are writing to give our support for the use of St. Paul's school building as a shelter for Fortitude Community Outreach. Having participated in the first year of sheltering, we recognize the importance not only of shelter, but the benefit of having a regular place to go to. The consistency

of one location will enable Fortitude to help vulnerable people in more ways, since it will cut down on administrative logistics of moving from site-to-site each night, or not having a site one or two nights a week. It will cause less confusion about where to go, enabling those guests to not worry about and feel the stress of wondering where they will stay or whether or not a bus can get them there on time. Homelessness is stressful enough as it is; to be able to cut down on that will ease some of their burdens. People who are experiencing homelessness are human beings created in the image of God, just like anyone who is not homeless, and should be treated accordingly. Having a basic need of shelter met will enable them to live and grow into their God-given potential. Most people like the *idea* of shelter and the *idea* of taking care of people who need help, but ideas need plans and follow-through. This is a plan and a way to follow-through. In Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "Letter from a Birmingham Jail," he addresses the criticism that changes just need to take time and people need to wait for them by saying that they "have waited for more than 340 years for our constitutional and God given rights." Our population that is experiencing homelessness does not need to wait any longer either; they need housing *now* and Fortitude is in the right time and place to be able to offer that.

LINDA KANNAPEL:

To Kankakee City Council Members. There are some misconceptions, rumors, and other negative information that I am sure you have heard during the past few weeks. I would like to take a few moments to clarify some of the misinformation. Gift of God Street Church and Homeless Shelter has been serving Kankakee and surrounding nearby counties and towns since 2000. We have no plans to close our doors. Running a shelter is not an easy thing to do---it is not something you learn from a book, but rather from life experience-it's more than just giving a hand out, it's giving a hand up. We have a number of rules our clients must agree to before staying at the shelter. They must take a drug and alcohol test when they arrive. They must bring us an Alpha report from the police--indicating if there are any outstanding warrants for their arrest. The shelter and grounds are smoke free, drug free and alcohol free. We are a Gospel Rescue Mission which means that every person who stays with us attends a Bible Study Class every day. We provide laundry, a real bed with clean sheets every night, new clothes if needed, and showers every night. A light breakfast

and lunch are available every day. A hot meal is provided every evening. We get them off cigarettes, drugs and alcohol and teach them to have responsibility for themselves. They make their beds every day as well as, helping to keep the shelter clean and up to Code. Thank you for your time.

JULIA MCDONALD:

Hello to Mayor Wells-Armstrong and to city council members! I have worked in downtown Kankakee for several years as a massage therapist and yoga instructor. I have subleased space in the Merchant Street Gallery building, in the space above the former Feed space, the library, the Clock Tower Centre and now a storefront just north of Merchant Street in Schuyler. I've interacted with several homeless people and know the names of a couple of them. I fully support the Fortitude organization and their proposal to maintain a static location downtown. Please consider how this will only make our city greater (900 S. Wildwood Ave). Thank you

BILL YONKA:

I would like to commend the Mayor for her previous support of Fortitude as they were creatively trying to fill a void in our community and serving those in need of shelter and support in a number of locations around our community. I hate the idea of a shelter in downtown Kankakee. Actually, I hate the idea of one anywhere. I wish there wasn't a need for it. Unfortunately, there is a need. I love Kankakee, our downtown and the great developments on the horizon. Most of all, I love that downtown is everyone's neighborhood. It feels that way at Farmers Market, at Merchant Street MusicFest, at a car shows, at gatherings of kids and parents at the library and in so many other times when people from all over our community get together in the historic hub of our city. It is for everyone. I know a lot of people are conflicted on this topic. I understand and I think very highly of compassionate people who see this situation differently. I am conflicted as well. I wish other municipalities in our area would be more willing to step up and host a facility like this to address a need for our entire community. Sure, some will roll their eyes and say, "oh, Bill doesn't understand or care about all the issues with this." That is fine. I'm ok with that. I support the shelter and hope our city council will too.

JEFF BENNET:

I hope that the Fortitude conversation is a beginning to a solution. There has been a resurgence in momentum in downtown Kankakee the Executive Center is class A office space and most recently an out-of-town investor acquired the

Clock Tower and PNC Bank building and is looking to purchase additional real estate downtown. While there is a need for such a facility I do not believe that St Pauls is the right location

MIKE PENSKI:

Couldn't agree more with Jeff Bennett's response and concerns, there is a need for a homeless shelter but this definitely isn't the right location it would have a negative impact on continued development in the downtown district. As a multiple property owner with in a block, I am completely against the shelter at this location. We are spending big dollars to clean up and attract new businesses to downtown and this shelter will be a negative impact to the continued success of revitalizing downtown.

SCOTT FRANCO:

I would also like to echo the comments of Jeff Bennett and Michael Pinski. While I am pleased to hear that Kankakee is willing to address the homeless population, I do not think the core downtown business district is the correct location for this shelter. We as a community need to discuss this issue in greater detail and formulate a plan to provide the necessary assistance to the homeless while being sensitive to the challenges of owning and operating a business in downtown Kankakee. I would encourage the City Council to vote against the shelter at St. Paul , but continue the conversation to find a solution for the homeless population.

NATALIE SEATON:

Hello. Regarding the shelter, I do know that many of us are only one or two paychecks away from being homeless ourselves. As a small business owner, I know that it's very easy to have a bad month, or bad season (financially). Nobody plans on being homeless, but it's very easy to judge those who are. It's not as easy to put ourselves in their shoes. I hope we can find a way to welcome this shelter into our city and our hearts.

ALLIE CHENAURD:

This comment is in support of Fortitude Community Outreach having a permanent location in Kankakee. I am a paramedic on the ambulance, and Emergency Room Employee. I have interactions with the homeless daily in my field. Most, are not medical emergencies. The ones that are, I can see how different homeless care is by trained professionals. Year round we house homeless in the Emergency Room overnight because they have nowhere to go and they are hungry. This takes away resources from our community who actually need them. Having a permanent location downtown would allow

the Emergency Room/ Ambulance to have a place to refer these individuals who call 911 just to have a place to sleep. Currently, the rotating shelter is not ideal for the population we serve. All of the offices that offer resources to the homeless population are in downtown Kankakee. The Salvation Army is in downtown Kankakee. When the shelter was in Bourbonnais, or west Kankakee, we saw a drop in the numbers. It was too far away from the resources for the homeless population to get too, so they ended up sleeping in the train depot anyways. One of the shelter locations for the past 2 years has been a Church in downtown Kankakee. We have had no looting or congregations at all at that location. The population we serve are very respectful of our locations We use because it is where they consistently get food, water, and shelter. The only 3 things you truly can't live without. On top of that, they get friendships, community, resources, and all the things your mental health can't live without. As a member of our community, risking my life as a first responder, I am asking you to approve this permanent location for Fortitude Community Outreach. Thank you.

JOHN & BARB DARLING: We support Fortitudes use of the former St Paul's school building for a homeless shelter. Fortitude has proven itself to be a supporter of the community and the homeless. The ability to have a consistent place to house the homeless in an area that the homeless frequent is a plus to the community. As I understand, Fortitude has stringent rules those seeking shelter must follow. Concerns about being negative to downtown development seem small in comparison to the benefits that this will provide, and I am not aware of significant problems at the various locations used previously.

SARA DEYOUNG & FAMILY: Our family supports the Fortitude Shelter site at St Paul's in downtown Kankakee. Please allow Fortitude to use this space to change lives. As lifelong residents (who lived in Chicago for a short time), we believe it's important to take care of the people in or community. Such a decision will only improve downtown Kankakee.

DEANNA CARLSON WEBB: Good afternoon, I am an attorney who works in the PNC building at 1 Dearborn Square. I would like to say that I am in support of Fortitude being able to use the old St. Paul's school as a homeless shelter. I do not believe that it will cause any harm or uncertainty to the area. I feel that the hours of operation do not make it so that anyone who is going in and out of the PNC building will be bothered, not that I really believe

the persons utilizing the shelter would bother anyone anyways.

NANCY FREGEAU:

Please allow the shelter at St Paul's. It is important for us as a community and the people that stay there (1319 Cobb, Kankakee).

IOLA GOMEZ:

I am hoping the school can become a one place shelter. We have the caring individuals, and the people in need of a hand up. This proposal would make it all so much easier than moving to different places every night. It's time to help solve the homeless and stop assuming they are all drug addicts. We are all one medical catastrophe from joining them. Let's pull together as a community and help those that need it. Open your hearts and we can do this.

SCOTT STYCK:

5th Ward resident for the past 12+ years and St. Paul's Lutheran member. I hope you had time to read the email I sent each of you today. Don't worry, I am not repeating everything from that email as I assume tonight's meeting may have more public comments than usual. As noted during the Aug 14th preliminary planning meeting in these chambers, the homeless of Kankakee are downtown. Contributing factors for the homeless being downtown are abundant and voting "yes" or "no" on the conditional use permit will not change is. The only KNOWN difference a conditional use permit will make to these residents would be to those who need a place to lay their heads at night. As we heard during the Planning board's meeting, prior to their approval of this permit, many fall upon hard times without warning or have other avenues to seek shelter when needed. Fortitude has provided relief for those who have sought shelter by putting the PADs program into place in Kankakee County. No one can deny that. We should grow upon this and keep moving Forward. Our vacant school has been used for storage and minor projects for decades. This location and building structure is a perfect fit for what Fortitude and their clients need. This location will differentiate itself from the other PADs locations due to the use of a shower and the accessibility to a washer/dryer on a nightly basis. As I said, I will keep this short and end now, trusting each of you read my email sent today. Thank

KAREN HOWDESHELL:

Please please approve St. Paul's for the shelter for our less fortunate community. They need this. You are worried about "them" being in the downtown area, well "they" are there

anyway. These are humans (just like you and I). There are families also, children. Again, please have a heart and show our community we can come together and help each other.

MARTIN FAYE:

Dear Aldermen and City Council Members; Plochman's Mustard is proud to be part of the Kankakee County community and supports Fortitude Community Out-Reach because of our confidence in the Organization's mission. It is also the reason that I am a volunteer time to this worthy organization.

SARAH NEILL:

I give my support to Fortitude Community Outreach's proposed PADS shelter site at St. Paul Lutheran Former School in Kankakee. As the Director of Community Services at Catholic Charities and Chair of the Kankakee Continuum of Care group, I have seen the quality work and commitment to the Homeless population that embodies Fortitude. The downtown Kankakee area is ideal for their location. The majority of the service providers working with the Homeless and individuals in need of services are within a very small radius of this location. This includes the Catholic Charities office at 249 S Schuyler in Kankakee. Non-profit organizations are very much a part of the downtown Kankakee community as are stores, banks, churches, restaurants, offices, and the other businesses that operate here. This shelter site will not take anything away from the other businesses. In fact, it primarily operates on the opposite schedule of most of the downtown business activity. In order to make Kankakee the best community it can be, there has to be a diverse plan for all the people who chose to live and work here, including those without homes. In my experience, homelessness is usually a temporary situation. With support and resources, people experiencing these issues can resolve their problems. Communities that have successfully addressed needs of the homeless population actively seek solutions. Not allowing for basic shelter services is not only poor planning, but detrimental to the city. A community of this size has to have these resources, it is a necessity not a choice. Thank you for your attention.

EMILIE HINTON:

I'm expressing my support of the approval of Fortitude using St. Paul's education building. The homeless are in the downtown area whether it's convenient for everyone or not. his approval would mean so much toward giving them a stable place to sleep and to obtain a meal. We can end the

worry of people sleeping under a bridge or freezing to death in a cardboard novel.

MICHELLE LAGACY:

Hello, I would love to see the fortitude shelter approved for a permanent shelter site. I have personally volunteered some night shifts and I feel it would be 100% easier on the volunteers and our community homeless if they did not have to move from site to site each night. I hope the right choice is made, no one deserves to sleep on the streets in winter. These people are human and not there to cause trouble, just sleep and eat.

RHONDA THOMAS:

Dear Kankakee City Council Members, Thank you in advance for the opportunity to express my utmost support for the special use permit for St. Paul's school as a nightly shelter for Fortitude Community Outreach. I have worked at overnight shelter sites with Fortitude for the past 2 years along with other trained volunteers from the Zonta Club of Kankakee. We have seen firsthand what a positive impact the services that Fortitude provides have on those who find themselves in the devastating circumstances of Homelessness. We can also attest to how heartbreaking it is to know that there are nights when these individuals have no where to go except the streets. A consistent shelter site will allow Fortitude to better serve the homeless population with consistent access to resources that provide improved physical circumstances (a warm bed, hot meals and improved hygiene with showers and clean clothes) and also improved economic circumstances by helping them overcome the challenges that have caused their homelessness. Each person in the Fortitude Program works toward individual goals that lead to education, gainful employment and permanent housing which is positive for our community. I pray that you vote to approve the permit for St. Paul's School and be the driving force that allows Fortitude Community Outreach the ability to make a life changing difference for the homeless in.

LEEANN FLOWERS:

The need for a 7 day a week shelter in the Kankakee area is dire. I run a local group called Kankakee County Single Moms. There is continuously a need for a shelter. At this time the best I can do is call Joliet to see if they have room to take a mom *IF* we as a group can pull funds to get her and her children there. Most times, leaving the area results in loss of employment, only furthering the level of poverty and desperation. The organizations we have locally, such as

catholic charities and KCCSI quickly run out of funding and are only able to help so many people with rent assistance. A shelter in this area would mean that a single mother who has nowhere else to go, could have a safe place to bring her children and herself until she is back on her feet. The shelter can help those there find jobs. Improve the moral and overall wellbeing and mental health of those that would require the services. There was a time when I had nothing after getting out of a very abusive relationship. I jumped from couch to couch, or slept in my car with 2 of my children. I called everywhere begging for temporary shelter, yet there was nothing. At that time, there was only a men's shelter. I assume that most of you have never spent Christmas in your car with two toddlers. It is so extremely depressing. I was lucky enough to own my car at the time, but trust me I would have preferred to have a bed, and heat instead of kids in car seats, parking in Walmart parking lot to feel even a little safe through the night. I understand that having a shelter in the downtown area may worry those who are doing their best to gentrify the area. Having somewhere for these individuals to go actually eliminates them just hanging around on the streets. Homelessness does not always equal drunkards or addicts. In fact, it often does not. But in the case that someone was under the influence, breathalyzer tests will be administered at admission, anyone over a certain limit will not be allowed in. Those who are causing problems in the area will be there with or without the shelter. They are already there. The Patrons will also be required to help keep the area around the shelter clean, which is a bonus to the city and the gentrification process. This shelter could be an amazing asset to our city. Through the shelter, programs could be put in place to help those who need the service to get their life back on track. Needing temporary shelter is not a plight on the city, it shows that the city can support those that live here, and include ALL residents of Kankakee in the Kankakee forward mentality. It shows that this community cares for those at the bottom as well as the top.

JANETTE CREZY SMITH:

Madam Mayor and members of City Council;
Good Evening, and thank you for this opportunity. I reside at 848 S. Greenwood Ave. Kankakee. As a Fortitude volunteer and resident of Kankakee City's 2nd Ward, I encourage you to grant this Special Use Permit. St. Paul's has been gracious to offer their property as a 7-day shelter for our homeless community, which provides easy access, a central location, and Amenities such as showers, we take

for granted. Having been a volunteer, I've witnessed first-hand not only the positive results a shelter can provide, but also the heartbreak of turning guests away. Please consider the impact this vote has on so many with so little. I am asking you to vote yes, granting a Special Use Permit to St. Paul's School for the use of Fortitude's 7- day shelter, Thank you.

LIEUTENANT PARNELL:

To the City Council of Kankakee, As a community partner and agency on the front lines of serving those in the most need in Kankakee, we at The Salvation Army of Kankakee County recognize the importance of supporting other local agencies who we serve alongside in this fight for good. We consider Fortitude Community Outreach a valuable resource to the community, as they serve and love the very same people we do – those in great need. While our specific methods of serving those suffering from homelessness or the threat of becoming homeless may differ, the greatness of working in collaboration with other agencies to serve a community is that we all bring something different to the table, which in turn fills gaps and provides more options to those in need. We urge the City Council to prayerfully consider the approval of a conditional use permit to Fortitude Community Outreach for a shelter care facility at 240 South Dearborn Avenue in the City of Kankakee, Illinois. If there are reservations about those suffering from homelessness shedding a poor light on the downtown area, I would ask that you search deeper as to why that is your conclusion. Those in need are already downtown. This is exactly why places like The Salvation Army, KCCSI, Catholic Charities, and many others are located here also. Those in need have to be in proximity to the resources that can help them in order to acquire the help they desire. Ultimately, the very people who would benefit from this approval are what the Bible calls our neighbors. While some may choose to label them as “homeless”, “addicts”, “poor”, and the like, we at The Salvation Army and the many other agencies in Kankakee know these people as our neighbors, and we know them by name. Kankakee is a great city of diversity, tradition, and community. Let this opportunity only highlight those qualities more, along with being a city of refuge, a city safe and welcoming for the sojourner, and a city of love for one’s neighbor as for oneself. May the Lord’s peace be with you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I did get a request...so just so the community knows. As you all know, just to give some background as the city did approve temporary shelter last year for Fortitude. There were a number of incidents that came in this year and will COVID-19 the city has been very supportive of Fortitude allowing them to setup shelter in a trailer in the depot area to provide meals, a porta potty was provided out there with hand washing capabilities because when we went on shut down through the governor's executive order our library wasn't open and oftentimes the homeless go to the library to wash their hands, or use the bathroom or just to be somewhere safe, and where they feel welcome. So, the city has been supportive. We did get a number of incidents. Regarding complaints down there and we held a meeting to address those complaints. One, I had actually an elected official that was accosted while she was with her family, dining, in the depot area. There was a delivery of a cell phone they're using the depot as an address to have deliveries, someone was bathing in the fountain downtown. and so, we thought it was wise to reach out to some of the other places in the city that address the homeless population and we had a meeting. So, my Mike Hoffman called a meeting on August 14th, I believe was the Friday before the planning board meeting in August. Mike Are you where you are, is that correct?

MIKE HOFFMAN: Yes Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. So, we had a good turnout and that turnout included a lot of the developers that are investing in downtown Kankakee, our 2nd Ward Alderpersons were present, Alderwoman Stacy Gall, Alderman Mike O'Brien, the Library team, and some other people. So, there was some detailed notes that Mike Hoffman took. Dr. Broers started the meeting by talking about why they were seeking a conditional use permit. Really to highlight a few things, she indicated that they were going to make some changes this year to require a breathalyzer test on entry, that everyone had to be in the shelter by 9:00 P.M. this year as opposed to 10:00 P.M. previously, and that they really want us to do this for convenience so they wouldn't have to move to different locations. I'm trying to summarize because we've had a lot of comments. Several other people who provided comments. Captain Cassagrande with the city Kankakee Fire Department. He noted that we will need to tweak the existing ordinance regarding how the city handles

temporary shelters. He also noted that he had been working with St. Paul's already on the potential use of the facility. Barbie Brewer Watson who is our Executive Director of our ECDA talked about having more comprehensive services, really wanting to work with the community to get a clear direction on where homeless can go to get help. And really stress the importance the partnership needing to connect and make sure that services are provided. Bob Bowman, is the Executive Director of St Paul's Lutheran church. He said that they received a positive vote of approximately 80% in favor from the church congregation, and the space school space have been used mostly just for storage. The Senior Pastor Carl Kopan was also in attendance of the meeting and said he thought it was a better utilization for the building, so he was 100% in support. Then we had we heard from some of the business community. Jeff Bennett I've shared his space he noted that the resurgence and momentum of downtown Kankakee that the Executive Center is a Class A space, stating that there is a need for the facility but didn't think it was the right location. Scott Franco, Mike Penske and Doug Bomb...Mike Penske and Doug Bomb have purchased PNC and the Clock Tower downtown and they pretty much expect expressed their concerns they know there's a need for a facility, but they did not think that was the best location. Allison Beasley and Steve Bertrand were there from the library they were not making any official comments on behalf of the library board. They did stress how the community, often relies on the library kind of as a fill in, and I'm improvising here what my words, is kind of the default place where people go when they don't have any place to go and the library team has always been very welcoming of everyone in the community. Given COVID-19, and just the restrictions that is put on staffing levels and those types of things they had concerns about putting additional strain on the resources that the library is already providing. Steve is on the call. Steve, if I'm stating something incorrectly. Okay. Beverly Hood was there from the Planning Board she was just there to gather information. Chief Schultz noted, that they will work with Fortitude and St Paul's from a fire department perspective on whatever decision is made. Jack Tyson a Fortitude board member indicated the Fortitude is trying to move towards the root cause of homelessness through partnerships. No one wants to damage the vision of downtown revitalization. So those are pretty much the comments that came in, so

some people were wondering why that there was no opposition to this and if no one came to the planning board meeting that was held that following Tuesday. That's because a lot of those people came to the meeting on August 14th which was held Friday in the chambers to address this issue so I just wanted to record with that. I think that's all of the comments. I've read everybody's comments that asked me to do so. We will move on to Item 5 Roll Call of the City Council, please.

ROLL CALL

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, we will move on to Item 5, Roll Call of the City Council.

CLERK DUMAS: **PRESENT:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall, Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Present (0) Absent

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Item B Department Heads.

CLERK DUMAS: **PRESENT:** Kosman, Schuldt, Kubal, McGrath, Schiel, Piggush, Bertrand, Schmitz, Ellexson, Hoffman, Brewer-Watson.

MINUTES

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Clerk Dumas. Moving on to Item 6A Minutes from Monday, August 17th, 2020. May I have a motion to approve?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: So move.

ALD LEWIS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Malone Marshall and Seconded by Alderwoman Lewis. Any edits to the minutes? All in favor, Aye?

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Mike McGrath, I just want to check. Do I need to do a Roll Call on the minutes?

MIKE MCGRATH: No Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Opposed, same sign? Minutes are approved.
Moving on to Petitions Item 7A.

PETITIONS

ITEM 7A: Minutes of the Planning Board from Tuesday, August 18th, 2020 (*Informational Only*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Those were enclosed with your packet information only.
Moving onto Item 7B.

ITEM 7B: PB2020-71 Ordinance Approving a Conditional Use Permits Autumn Hodak for Major Home Occupation at 545 South Foley Street, in the City of Kankakee, Illinois.

MIKE HOFFMAN: Thank you Mayor. Autumn Hodak proposed Nirvana by Autumn which is a skincare business in our home at 545 South Foley Avenue. This is most comparable to a beauty shop or a barber shop as we've defined in the zoning ordinance and the ordinance separates minor and major modifications which this would fall under requires a conditional use permit. We have a public hearing on this at the August 18th planning board meeting, they voted unanimously in support of the home occupation and so the recommendation for you is to allow this skincare business and (*inaudible*)by itself.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, this is the first on the agenda so if there's no objection. I'd like a motion to suspend the rules.

ALD OSENGA: So move.

ALD CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion by Alderman Osenga and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. May I have a motion to place the ordinance of final passage?

ALD OSENGA: So move.

ALD CRAWFORD: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion by Alderman Osenga and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Any discussion on this item? Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD: Yes, were there any conditions that they had to upgrade the house for handicap accessibility or any handicapped bathrooms or anything that sort.

MIKE HOFFMAN: The Planning Board did not place any conditions on the request like that.

ALD CRAWFORD: Okay, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Any other discussion. Okay, Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries, thank you. Moving on to Item 7C.

ITEM 7C: PB2020-7-2 Ordinance Approving a Conditional Use Permit to Fortitude Community Outreach for a Shelter Care Facility at 240 South Dearborn Avenue (St. Paul's Lutheran Church) in the City of Kankakee.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Again, first time on the agenda if there are no objections, May I have a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of the ordinance.

ALD FAFORD: So move.

ALD OSENGA: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion by Alderman Faford and Seconded by Alderman Osenga. Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tall, Faford,
NAYS: Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(2) Ayes (12) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So, the motion to suspend the rules failed. So, it'll go on second reading September 21st, 2020. Okay. Alright, moving on to Item 8A.

COMMUNICATIONS

ITEM 8A: City of Kankakee Annual Audit Report with Fiscal Year Ending April 30th, 2019 (*information only*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: This was the audit, we presented this during the special Budget Meeting on August 24th. Auditors we're here to present there was about two weeks ago. It's been posted on the city of Kankakee website since August 25th. Hard copies were provided for the City Council members at your mailboxes August 25th. Elizabeth didn't receive any questions during the presentation we did direct any questions to either Elizabeth, or the auditors directly. I do have Carlos on the call. Carlos, are you here?

CARLOS (Auditor): Yes, I'm here.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, He is here from the auditing firm. So, if you have a question, please raise your hand. Aldermen O'Brien?

ALD O'BRIEN: Thank you Mayor. I'm not sure if this would be for Elizabeth or Carlos but regardless, on page 67 of the audit, it talks about the restating of the liability due to a gasby change from the year before related to an insurance expense. I'm not familiar with that. I am wondering if you can address that.

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Carlos do you mind speaking the accounting language on that one or do you want me to take it?

CARLOS (Auditor): Would you mind taking it?

ELIZABETH KUBAL: So, there was a new gasby related to oped obligations. Basically, that's our other post-employment benefits and largely that is the benefits that go obviously longer so insurances and some of that sort of those had to be restated going back. So, it's a large liability, when we look at it every year it's a large liability but then the gasby's makes it even a larger liability as you can imagine. So, it is one though that we have a note on in there, I'm sure you read that, and that's the numbers this year, the adjustments are made at this point.

ALD O'BRIEN: So, is like insurance for retirees?

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Correct. Remember, they pay 80/20, but on the ESU side they have different benefits. Depending on your longevity and such. And there's some other pieces that are out there but mostly it's that health insurance benefit.

ALD O'BRIEN: Great, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman O'Brien are you good?

ALD O'BRIEN: Yes, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Anybody else if you can show me their hand. Okay. So, again, this is not a vote the auditors are independent they make the presentation which has been done. So, we'll move forward with the bond issue. We're getting feedback to somebody, please mute whoever that is we're getting feedback into the meeting. Okay. Again, what I was saying is that these, the audit is prepared by an independent auditor so at this time that we just move forward with the bond issue has been presented. I want to thank you, Carlos, where you went. Thank you, guys for coming in to the special meeting on August 24th during the presentation and thanks for being on tonight. Alright, we will move on to Communications.

COMMUNICATIONS

ITEM 8B: Chicago Avenue Block Association Requesting a Noise Permit and Street Closure of North Chicago Avenue from East Mulberry Street to East Willow Street to Host "Back To School/End of Summer Block Party" on Saturday, September 19th from 3:00P.M. until 11:00 P.M.

ITEM 8C: St. John Paul II Catholic Parish, Requesting a Noise Permit and Street Closure of South Tenth from School Street to West Charles Street to Host the Mexican Independence Day on Saturday, September 12th from 12:00 P.M. until 8:00 P.M. with a Rain Date on Saturday, September 19th, 2020

ITEM 8D: St John United Church of Christ, 1045 West River Street, is Requesting Street Closure of South Rutledge Avenue at the Corner of West River to the Corner of the Park off Enos

Avenue to Host their Outdoor Worship Sunday, September 13th, 2020 Sunday, September 20th, 2020, and Sunday, September 27th, from 9:00 A.M. until 11:00 A.M.

ITEM 8E: Knights of Columbus is Requesting Permission to Host their Tootsie Roll Tag Day on Saturday, September 19th, 2020.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: If there are no objections, I would like to combine Items 8B, 8C, 8D, and 8E. May I have a motion to approve?

ALD BROWN: So move.

ALD TETTER: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion by Alderman Brown and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion? Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: The motions carry. Again, the governor will be providing updates tomorrow regarding our social distancing and masks guidelines for COVID-19. So we'll just ask everyone to be very mindful of those guidelines. Moving on to Item 9 Standing Committee Reports.

ITEM 9A: Ordinance – Alderman Tall
The meeting was held Tuesday, July 28th, 2020
Highlights include: Under Old Business a proposal for ordinance for the protection of employees, freedom of expression. There was no action on that. Then under new business, an ordinance amending the municipal code of the city of Kankakee entitled dangerous animals chapter six, there's a list of amendments Section 1 6-1, which is dogs. I don't want to go through all of these tonight because we're referring this to public safety and Code for further review and it's recommended by the Council Committee. Then the other new business was a request for the street designation for William McCarthy, that passed, and hopefully that'll be on the city agenda soon. That's it.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, thank you Alderman Tall. Moving on to Item 9B.

ITEM 9B:

Public Safety – Alderman Brown

The meeting was held on Tuesday, August 4th, 2020.

Highlights include: That meeting was held before the storm came in. We just want to make sure we did a presentation by Jim Rowe, the Kankakee County State's Attorney, I want to thank him personally for doing that. It's about a citizen review board, and we just went over some new rules on how a Citizen Review Board is made up and how they are appointed by the Police Commissioner, the Mayor with the consent of City Council, and some of the makeup they could consist of some of the retired police officer, and it could consist of citizen adult (*inaudible*) records, and it could consist of people that lives outside the community, they are only a third person board. They don't have a final decision or anything. They make recommendation, and they do not interfere with any internal investigation at the police department, either fire commission department, those local department. But the final decision about any discipline is left up to the Fire Chief and the Police Chief, and we talk about the training and before we do anything. We discussed the training (*inaudible*) go through. And we want to make sure that everybody (*inaudible*), advocating for the review board. We're just given the facts of what it consists of, what we can do. That's the only thing, and going down the reports. The reports you can read about the bills and how they approve. But one of the major concerns was in the report was that one of the major concern was the damage caused by Fireworks Fire on the 4th of July was caused about \$51,000 damages. And we discussed that in a way that we probably need to do something about. If people are shooting these fireworks and causing damages, and there's no known consequences to that so I want to make sure we bring that back up. Action for the fire department was the backup ambulance has already been approved. So, Damon Schuldt, I think we made a motion that the budget committed to do that to send it the full Council, with standard not to exceed \$25,000 think it was if I'm not mistaken. On the police side, that Police Chief Kosman reported the bills for the month and one of the major concern we were going to be discussed. You can read up about part one part two crime and debts and all that. And one of the major concerns the neighborhood that would get all these (*inaudible*) and we are going to discuss that in October. And I think Alderman Larry Osenga already

discussed the mopeds, and all of those bikes. He stressed that in the City Council meeting. That's the Public Safety report.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Brown. And then last but not least, we have Item 9C.

ITEM 9C:

License & Franchise - Alderman Curtis

The meeting was held on Thursday, August 6th, 2020.

Highlights include: We did have a quorum, and we approved our minutes from the July 9th, 2020 meeting, we meeting back in person for the first time in a while we did have to have a referee. I'm sorry we had a Representative from Aqua, Sarafini showed up and she gave an update on some restorations and improvements that are happening. They are a little behind schedule due to COVID-19 but they are happening. She did bring to our attention Aqua has a program called Aqua aid can help with customers that need to have assistance with payments of their bills, especially now with COVID-19. She didn't mention that no shut offs are occurring right now, due to non-payment. And they have voluntarily suspended any shut offs for another 60 days, it was mentioned that why they're not shutting off due to non-payment that doesn't mean the bill goes away, so they do stress if you can pay even a little bit it helps because ultimately that bill will be due. Mr. Bernie Anderson from Nicor, also provided us an update by email. He had the same response that there are some projects with Nicor that are a little bit behind but are also progressing and that they are also not disconnecting anything at this time, and they're not reporting any non-payments to the credit agencies to August 31st, he expected them would be extended at the time of August 16th so that was through the end of the month. While we're talking about Nicor, I do want to provide a quick update. This was for the License or Franchise meeting coming this Thursday but Mr. Anderson provided this email to me and I thought we should share this because the work is going to begin Thursday. He wanted to share that with the city of Kankakee that Jeffrey Street Project is scheduled to stage and start on September 10th, which is this Thursday. The project will last several weeks. The project will is being done to meet the meet the request in the city Kankakee for public improvements, and all the customers will be notified so he just asked that we share that with Licensed Franchise, but I wanted to do that tonight because it'll be

old news come Thursday night. Back to the minutes from the August 6th, meeting New Business, there needs to be some follow up regarding the liquor license ordinance that was passed previously by city council. There were several new licenses that were part of that ordinance that didn't have fees associated with them. So we went through those pretty diligently line by line. It was really consensus of the entire committee that dealing what we're dealing with right now, with COVID, that no one wanted to see any extra fees, with businesses and licenses as much as possible right now so quite frankly, things were tied in very similar to the \$1250.00 licenses that are for restaurants and things of that nature we did that for hotels. We kept some of the arts and crafts studios similar to business complimentary services. There were two major changes, there was the License Q which was the BYOB Supplemental License. There were some concerns with the committee is we weren't quite sure where that fits, bring your own. We just thought you know what we'd like to eliminate that license be quite frank we just don't know where bringing your own liquor to an establishment makes any sense. So, we that was a motion that was voted on. Then one of the ones that was discussed in detail was Licensed K, which allows for onsite consumption at a grocery store. It was brought up by several of the Alderman. They were concerned about tasting within a grocery store that you've got people under 21 minor things of that nature. And there was a motion made and approved unanimously by the committee that they did not want to have a License K where you could have on site consumption in the grocery store. There was no executive session, and we adjourned. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Curtis. You said you were meeting this week.

ALD CURTIS:

Yes, there is a meeting on Thursday. I'll just bring it up now it was given up a little bit later during Alderman comments but if all the committee members can come we do have a full agenda. There is a Taxi...we haven't had one of these in a long time I think since Alderman Brown, Chaired Licensed and Franchise. There is a Taxi License Application. So we need to go over that. And it was a second thing on there.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: It's okay, I'll come back to you in Alderman comments.

ALD CURTIS: Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You're welcome. It's okay. I didn't mean to put you on the spot. Okay, moving on to Item 10 Reports of Officers.

REPORT OF OFFICERS

ITEM 10A: City of Kankakee -\$730,094.27

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to accept the reports of officers

ALD FAFORD: I move we accept the report of officers placed the money in the proper accounts and pay the bills in the amount of \$730,094.27

ALD LEWIS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Faford and Seconded by Alderwoman Lewis. Any discussion on any of the bills? Alderman Tetters you had a floor.

ALD TETTER: Thank you, Your Honor. Just a quick question. So, we're paying the Kankakee County Animal Control. Do we have an itemized billing lists as to what we're providing, what we're paying them for in terms of the services they're providing for the city.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Yes, Elizabeth has the detail on that Elizabeth I'll go ahead and defer to you.

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Sure. Thank you, Mayor. Yes, we receive an invoice from them and it just lists out the type of animal, how many of that animal, the dates and things of that sort.

ALD TETTER: No addresses or anything like that?

ELIZABETH KUBAL: I haven't looked at a bill in a while. But I feel like there could be addresses on it. Yes, I'd have to check that.

ALD TETTER: Thank you. No problem.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Anybody else any questions or discussion on the bills? Okay, roll call please.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Faford, Swanson, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
NAYS: Tall, Crawford
(12) Ayes (2) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 10B

ITEM 10B: Community Development Agency - \$244,575.99

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: May I have a motion to approve?

ALD SWANSON: Mayor I'd like to make a motion to approve the bills and for the Community Development Agency in the amount of \$244,575.99.

ALD TETTER: Second, Your Honor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Swanson and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion on any of the bills? Alderman Osenga you had a floor.

ALD OSENGA: Thank you Mayor. I'm looking at the bills I'm seeing Aqua sewer bills, and they range from \$18.00 to \$350.00 to \$375.00. What are all those bills for?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Is that with the BBK in front of them Alderman Osenga?

ALD OSENGA: Yes.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Yes, so that's part of the Bounce Back Kankakee program. So, in response to COVID-19 the city worked with our federal legislators, and we were able to secure some funding about \$345,000 from the federal government to help provide mortgage, rent, and utility assistance to our residents and our business owners. So, when you see that be BBK that's the Bounce Back Kankakee program. That's why there's a range. Go ahead, Alderman Osenga.

ALD OSENGA: I have one other one. It's under BBK also. It says Momence News check number 1469 for \$2,000.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Barbie?

BARBIE BREWER-WATSON: So, anything that people were able to submit for reimbursement marketing dollars, access to internet, things like that, we were able to reimburse them for that loss of

money. So, this business was able to advertise but they had to spent money already, so we were able to reimburse them the dollars that they lost. I can get you more detailed information about that specific business, but it's a local business that advertise.

ALD OSENGA: All right, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you, Alderman Osenga. Any other questions? Okay, we'll do a roll call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Tall, Lewis, Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 11 Unfinished Business.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

ITEM 11A: Ordinance Regarding Face Coverings to Preserve and Protect Residents. (*2nd Reading*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So just to be clear, the Illinois Municipal League made a recommendation for this ordinance so I placed it on the agenda for the City Council to review, seeking input from you all in terms of what is your pleasure, even if you do not adapt it the local authorities have the ability to enforce it and that's our county sheriff, our local city, county police department in the Kankakee County Health Department. So I just want to be clear. Again, this is the second reading so if I can get a motion to approve.

ALD TETTER: So move, Your Honor.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: I second Madam Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Tetter and Seconded by Alderwoman Malone Marshall. Any discussion? Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD: Yes. Is this the ordinance that is being passed by...or the recommendation by IML or there's some rumor going around also that there is a \$750 fine attached to this, if you get caught, without your mask on.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, Mike? So, there was one that came after business owners.

MIKE MCGRATH: Right. This one is the exact language that came from the IML, and they left it up to the municipalities who want to pass it or choose to pass it and to put in the fine amount. I think the intention behind it is just to stress the importance of wearing a mask especially when you're around other people. As the Mayor stated, if you don't approve it. It's still on the books statewide and county officials and state officials can impose this ordinance, I don't know what the brain would be if it would be imposed by the state or the county. You'd have to check with them but I truly believe it's more just to be more of a public awareness, it's up to each municipality, but this \$750 is not in this ordinance.

ALD CRAWFORD: Okay, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman O'Brien?

ALD O'BRIEN: Thank you. That was a question I had I was not clear on when you said it could be enforced it, it would not be enforcement of this ordinance but the state law on this issue or the executive orders. Is that correct?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I believe that 750 was for the business. I think the first step was like a warning and then there was like a notice or something and then there's a \$750 for the business owner. Correct Mike?

MIKE MCGRATH: Yes, that is the intent of it. records. Also, temporary so you know if you have a grocery store or retail shop customers in without wearing mask or face coverings with other customers. It's progressive, so it doesn't happen in the future.

ALD O'BRIEN: Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I don't see the \$750 and I just wanted to double check because there were two different ones; one for businesses, and this is one for residents. Any other questions? Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS: On the first reading I believe the ordinance and had a \$750 fine but I'm the one that's attached in our packet here, it's

blank. So, is this a different ordinance from our last meeting or was that removed?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Mike?

MIKE MCGRATH: Again, it's my understanding that is the same. As a note, there's actually an error in the first whereas. It has Kankakee as being a non-home ruled unit, which should have been changed and we didn't catch it at my office. Again, this is tailored off of what the IML sent over.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So, this one does not say a \$750.00

MIKE MCGRATH: What was in the packet, has a blank.

ALD CURTIS: It's blank on this one. The one we got at the last Council meeting had \$750. I guess my question. We're going to go into is, I know that the state has the mandate mask and I believe if I remember reading their rules correctly, it was first time a warning, second time a warning, third time a fine of anywhere from \$750 to \$2750. I believe which is at a discretion. I guess I'm just trying to understand Governor Pritzker already has this in place, why duplicate. a second (*inaudible*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: And that's fine.

ALD CURTIS: Okay.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Yeah. And that's why it worked Burt said you know even if you all did not want to adopt it that the state is still putting the measure in place. Any other discussion? Okay, roll call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Cobbs, Lewis, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
NAYS: Curtis, Tall, Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien
(7) Ayes (7) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Tetter I see your hand?

ALD TETTER: Yes, Your Honor. It appears that it is a tie and I do believe that vote is left in your hands.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Mike McGrath were you going to say something?

MIKE MCGRATH: You have the right to vote to break the tie.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, I'm going to follow the order of the state and I vote aye. Its enforced by the state anyway.

CLERK DUMAS: (8) Ayes (7) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Okay. Motion carries. Alright, Item 12 New Business.

NEW BUSINESS

ITEM 12A Ordinance Amending Chapter 32 Section 231 Entitled “Handicap Parking” of the Municipal Code of the City of Kankakee Handicapped Parking Signs Established at 905 South Elm Avenue at the First Parking Space on the West Side of South Elm Avenue and East Dwayne Boulevard.

ITEM 12B: Ordinance Amending Chapter 32 Section 231 Entitled “Handicap Parking” of the Municipal Code of the City of Kankakee Handicapped Parking Signs Established at 1045 South Myrtle.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: If there are no objections, I would like to combine Items 12A and 12B. I'll need a motion to suspend the rules that will interfere with the passage of the ordinances. Alderman Cobbs?

ALD COBBS: So move Mayor.

ALD CURTIS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Cobbs and Seconded by Alderman Curtis. Roll call please.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. They may have a motion to place the ordinances of final passage?

ALD COBBS: So move Mayor.

ALD PRUDE: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Cobbs and Seconded by Alderman Prude. Any discussion? Roll call please.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12C

ITEM 12C: Recommendation to Award the Bid in the Amount of \$207,596.77 to Hamann Wagner Excavating for the Kankakee Gateway Enhancement Project Located at North Hammes Avenue and Illinois Route 17.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I'll go ahead and defer to Neil and then Mike Hoffman, if he has anything to add.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Thank you Mayor, we held the bid opening for this project. On September 1st. We received 4 local bidders and Hamann Wagner was the lowest. We are recommending award. It is over budget but we are already looking at ways to reduce the cost of the contract after the award.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Can you elaborate on...

NEIL PIGGUSH: We're probably going to be eliminating the landscaping at the cemetery, and then possibly some other credits that we can utilize with the sign that won't affect the final product but it'll save us in construction costs.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Mike, do you have anything to add?

MIKE HOFFMAN: No Mayor. I think Neil covered it all.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: And this is the project we did have public outreach from the community.

MIKE HOFFMAN: We certainly did we had a couple of public outreach meetings and there was a major paper actually about this explaining what was going on (*inaudible*).

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: And I want to thank Jasmine posted on our website and social media about the project as well. If I can get a motion to approve. Alderman Tetter?

ALD TETTER: So move Your Honor.

ALD BROWN: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Tetters and Seconded by Alderman Brown. Any discussion? Alderman Osenga?

ALD OSENGA: Thank you Mayor. This \$207,000 bid. Does that include the entryway sign that's going to be put there. And that sign was about 90,000 if I remember right, for that part of the project.

NEIL PIGGUSH: So that does include everything of a project that includes the design, the landscaping around the site, and the removal of the existing road, as well as, replacement of the sidewalk connection down Court Street and grading around the sign and lighting as well.

ALD OSENGA: And will that be closing Hammes Avenue? I know that was discussed with the 312 Project.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Yes, it will be. We've already got a review letter back from IDOT. They're not opposed to us doing this at all so we're going to be closed anyway as part of the interchange improvements. We do have their preliminary interchange plan so we kind of designed around what their future improvements were so we don't have to worry about that sign. So that was all taken into consideration when we design.

ALD OSENGA: Alright, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You're welcome. Any other discussion? Alderman Tall?

ALD TALL: Yes. My question is to Neil. Will we be able to recover some of the construction costs from the State of Illinois because this is a cross section of 17?

NEIL PIGGUSH: Probably not since the city is the one proposing this project and if this was timed out with their project that's maybe something we could do but they're still in phase one engineering on the interchange improvements and actually most of these improvements are in city right away and not in the state right away.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Tall. Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS: Thank you Mayor. The funds for this I know there was talk of using the East Side Business Council funds. Will this be higher? Is there a breakdown of how we think we're going to do that or is there enough funds in the East Side Business Council the pay for the entire thing, or is there going to be a breakdown with MFT with there being a higher estimate?

NEIL PIGGUSH: This would like, I think the Special Service Area from the East Side Business District has about 90 or \$100,000 in it and the balance I believe was going to come from capital. Elizabeth maybe able to elaborate on that.

ELIZABETH KUBAL: Thanks Neil. I think it's a little over by the time we get through this tax season I think we'll be at about 120ish thousand dollars in the fund, but obviously that's a far cry from what's being proposed. So, there will have to be I mean, it will come from capital to complete this.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Neil, this \$207,000 does that includes all the landscaping, or is that the amount. That's all the landscaping.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Correct. That includes the cemetery landscaping, our goal is to get this with some with the elimination of the cemetery landscaping impossible credits our goal to get this done about \$160,000, which is our original estimate so that's where we're anticipating on being.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: And just so the community knows for those who are watching IDOT the Department of Transportation is planning to close Hammes Avenue off anyway to reconfigure the ramp at exit 312, so we're just accelerating that project to make our gateway into the community more attractive. Alderman Osenga?

ALD OSENGA: That brings up an interesting point. Do we have any idea when they're going to maybe move forward with the 312 Project? I know that's been on the books for probably at least 10 years

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Yeah, I think when I became Mayor, when we all started together as the Administration I think it had been seven years and phase one Neil, is that correct.

NEIL PIGGUSH: That's correct Mayor. We, actually just got an email from IDOT on September 1 with an update. They've had to redo their Phase One study, and they had some consultant change or over which is (*inaudible*) their process but they're looking to restart their public input process this fall. So we're hoping that this fall we hear a little bit more about that Alderman Osenga and maybe we start to see a little more progress on that phase one study.

ALD OSENGA: Okay, I usually I hope I don't die of old age before this project get started...closer every day.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Be nice. Alderman Osnga, we have been contacting IDOT since the new administration started and Represent Parkhurst I know has reached out to the transportation as well on our behalf. So, as soon as we have an update we will share it.

ALD OSENGA: Okay.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Anybody else? Alderman Tetter?

ALD TETTER: Thank you Your Honor. Just for the general public who might be listening. I want to clarify, it is only the 100 Block of Hammes, this is not the entire Hammes just for the record.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, that's the good point. Alright. I think we're at a Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. I want to thank the 7th Ward residents and all the other residents across the city that have expressed a concern to see our gateway interest to our city improved. We have a lot of good input from the community. Moving on to Item 12D.

ITEM 12D: Recommendation to Accept the Engineering Proposal from Piggush Engineering in the Amount of \$3,240 for the Illinois Department of Transportation Enhancement Program Grant Application for the South Schuyler Avenue Improvements.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: This is an ITEP Grant, and this is going to address the extension of the South Schuyler Streetscape from Station Street Down to Water Street. So, across River, to Water which will then connect us to the bike trails that go out to KCC. Originally the capital team had been meeting about this project, and as it started to develop the cost increase, and some of that was due to the improvements for ADA, making sure that it's accessible for people with disabilities. We of course had to do our due diligence there was gas station in the 300 block of South Schuyler, we had to do some work there to make sure that that soil is not contaminated and some other work. So as the costs, increased we originally were thinking of using funds from CDA, but we decided to then probably be better to go after an ITEP grant. So I'll go ahead and defer to Neil and he can tell us a little more about that.

NEIL PIGGUSH:

Thank you Mayor. I think the only thing that, you know, that kind of came up as we're going through the design process with South Schuyler is IDOT had a lot of comments on us eliminating a lane across the bridge to fit the bike lanes. So we're still addressing that there's going to be some signal modifications that River Street, we're going to have to do. So, the costs just kind of started to slowly creep up on us, but the other thing is this, this year's ITEP cycle through IDOT in particular has about five times the amount of funding that they normally a lot for this cycle. The last cycle was about 20 to 23 million of grant awards this year they have 106 million to give up. So, us thinking we were shovel ready, are going to be really shovel ready for the most part, at the November 2nd deadline. We feel like this really hits a lot of bullet points for what they're looking for and ITEP application from accessibility to alternative modes of transportation and connecting logical termini alternative modes of transportation so we feel this is going to present really well in a grant application. We've already held a coordination meeting with IDOT and (*inaudible*) to kind of get ahead of the ball on this and get them brought up to speed on the project we've submitted plans at the end of July. So, this is already kind of in process and we hope to have our approvals and get those extra points. This grant cycle is funded at 80% so it's a really good grant cycle to apply for.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Do we have costs yet Neil?

NEIL PIGGUSH:

So, we're probably with construction and construction engineering we're probably looking at around 930 or 940,000 for the five block improvements. A lot of that's due to the condition of the existing asphalt, that we have to mill and overlay because it's not in good enough shape and put the thermoplastic markings on from the bike lanes. So, we're at about, I'd say we're at about 930 or 940 with some hard and soft costs included so the city would be on the hook for close to \$200,000 for a match.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright, May I have a motion to approve the recommendation?

ALD TETTER: So move Your Honor.

ALD LEWIS: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned Alderman Tetter and Seconded by Alderwoman Lewis. Any Discussion? Alderman Curtis?

ALD CURTIS: Thank you. This would be for Neil. Is it possible or is it. I don't know if it's more cost effective or not but similar like what we did on Wall Street where the sidewalk is much wider. It's kind of a walking path and a biking path on instead of having the biking lane in the road. Is it possible to do something like that with these blocks all the way to Schuyler Avenue Bridge, have a wider sidewalk or a wider path like Wall Street, that people seem to enjoy that and just as a maybe as a safety precaution?

NEIL PIGGUSH:

That's something we did look at we coordinated with (*inaudible*) Illinois on this. One of the options they brought up was moving the parapet walls on the bridge which presents a whole other set of issues because the drains are on both sides of those walls, and then the bridge structure section IDOT would have to give input on that. And I think that could actually turn into a more costly project. We have the on road bike lanes at that station so we're kind of continuing that plus we have. We have some safety concerns at River Street, with the through left lanes heading north and south. It seems like there's a lot of rear end accidents of people trying to get around left hand turning cars and just swerving into the through lane. So, this project is actually going to have dedicated left-hand turn lanes at

River Street which we feel is going to make it a much safer condition, not only for the motorists but for the bicyclists.

ALD CURTIS:

I guess I guess I was thinking more for the, I guess I would call it a 3, 4, and 5 hundred blocks of Schuyler Avenue, where sidewalks and all that are in pretty poor shape to begin with.

NEIL PIGGUSH:

We didn't really look at, because there's a lot of things in the right away. Like lights and such that are right up against the sidewalk, so we didn't look at that as an option but we have to move a lot of lights the roadway was already wide enough to accommodate the bike lanes and that is what the city's bike plan shows. That's what we went with.

ALD CURTIS:

Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Alderman Curtis. Any other discussion? Alright in this project we'll just extend the streetscape further down again to connect out to the bike lanes behind KCC. We'll go ahead and do a Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYES: Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Malone Marshall, Prude

ABSTAIN: Gall

(13) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12E.

ITEM 12E:

Recommendation to Accept the Engineering Proposal from Piggush Engineering in the Amount of \$3,240 for the Illinois Department of Transportation, Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program Grant Application for the Riverfront Trail Phase IIIA Project.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Neil if you want to talk about what that project is.

NEIL PIGGUSH:

Thank you Mayor. This is a continuation of the previous ITEP grant the city received. The city received a partial award of what we asked for last time, v3 was awarded the \$100,000 portion of the Phase I Engineering they're now nearing completion of their scope of work on that. So, this will be basically applying for the balance of Phase I and Phase II Engineering, given the complexity of this project I don't really feel comfortable applying for construction

dollars until we have a final design and estimate. So, I think it's more responsible to just apply for another grant for just the Phase I and II Engineering, given I know the challenges that they had on the previous Riverfront Trail project going over the river. So, I just think it this is a better course of action given how long it's going to take to get permitting through the (*inaudible*) and IDNR. There's going to be a bridge over Soldier Creek that we're going in Court Street there likely be lighting involved on this project, and then we're continuing south along the riverbank through the park district's property. So we will have section four clearance to get through public lands as well so there's, there's just a lot and we're dealing with Norfolk Southern Railroad so there's just a lot of pieces for this project, I think it's a really good link, because it connects that trail to Station Street which will get people down town. But I think given the complexity of the project and be more prudent to just apply for the balance for you engineering dollars have been helpful. The next type of cycle, we're ready to go. shovel ready to apply for construction dollars.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright. Motion to approve.

ALD LEWIS: So move Mayor

ALD TALL: Second

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Lewis and Seconded by Alderman Tall. Any discussion on this item? Okay.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall
Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Malone
Marshall, Prude
ABSTAIN: Gall
(12) Ayes (0) Nays (1) Abstention
The record reflects: No response from Curtis- Not visible on Zoom during the time of Roll Call.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12F.

ITEM 12F: Recommendation to Approve Preliminary Engineering Services Sgreement for Federal Participation (Supplement #1) from Christopher Burke Engineering in the Amount of \$103,103.09 for Hobbie Avenue Reconstruction Project

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Neil I'll let you update everybody on that project.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Thank you Mayor. Christopher Burke is working through their final layout and Phase I Engineering and looking to button that up. Upon completion of the Phase I Engineering, some environmental items came up that are going to require soil borings and analysis, given the historical uses of some properties along this route. We're also going to have to obtain. I believe roughly 10 to 12 easements. That was not scoped out in the phase one because the initial agreement was assuming we would stay within the right away but given the horizontal layout and turning movements, we had to acquire some easements. This also included in Section IV of the Minimis Clearance since we are getting an easement from the park district, we have to do, given the federal guidelines we have to get Section IV, four as clearance from the Park District as well as federal highways. This also includes lighting design for the, for the roadway as well.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright, may I have a motion to approve the recommendation?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Madam Mayor, so move

ALD PRUDE: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Marshall and Seconded by Alderman Prude. Any discussion? Alderman Osenga?

ALD OSENGA: Can somebody tell me how much MFT money has been put Into this project already? A total amount since we started this project.

NEIL PIGGUSH: I don't have that on hand right now. I can get that for you but I will have to pull the last invoice from Christopher Burke but it's being reimbursed at 80% by the MPO reimbursements trail a few months.

ALD OSENGA: I think the last time we put \$400,000 of MFT money towards this engineering project. And I think we put money, MFT money, one other time into this project. and I sent an email to the Mayor. My concern is, we're putting all this money in this one project, and the rest of the city is falling apart. You know all the other wards should be

getting a fair share of MFT to take care of the projects that we need in our wards, our streets our alleys, our sidewalks, are all falling apart, and we keep putting money into the Hobbie Avenue project. And that may not happen for another four or five years.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Alderman Tetter?

ALD TETTER: Thank you Your Honor. I just like to make a couple of comments. One is that Hobbie is the main thoroughfare traffic coming out of Bradley or going to Bradley. Secondly, there's also semi-truck usage that's going into the space center. Thirdly, more importantly than any of this is, it's a health issue since I've been a kid. Now, I don't know how many of you travel hobby or how many of you actually would want to come out there and wade in water when it rains, but this is severely needed and it's long overdue that we did something to improve Hobbie and the drainage issues associated with that thoroughfare. That's all I have.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD: Yes. And maybe when Neil was talking, things were getting broke up again. How much of this \$103,000 is MOP Money?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: MOP money?

ALD OSENGA: MPO.

ALD CRAWFORD: Yeah, the MPO in the old money how much of this is how much of that \$103,000 is the MPO money.

NEIL PIGGUSH: 80% so roughly, 80,000.

ALD CRAWFORD: Okay, you were breaking up when you were talking so I didn't hear you clearly.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Yeah, so the reason we have to authorize all the MFT funds is because the reimbursements trail, the invoices by a few months so we have to be able to pay those invoices before we get the reimbursements. So that's why we're authorizing the MFT funds they'll get reconciled back into the count at the end of the project but in order to be able to pay,

Christopher Burke, we have to authorize the full contract amount on the front end.

ALD CRAWFORD: So, for example, you're saying say we spent \$2 million. (inaudible) 80% paid by money for the MPO money and then we reimburse our MTF money back to my following that correctly?

NEIL PIGGUSH: Correct.

ALD CRAWFORD: Okay, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Tall, I saw you hand.

ALD TALL: Yes. The question I had is um, about the lighting. I see we have something in here about the lighting from Fair Street to Court Street. Do you have any idea of what type of lighting there will be?

NEIL PIGGUSH: It will mimic what the city has already installed on their other thoroughfares much like Court Street. So yeah, it's going to look just like that.

ALD TALL: Okay.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderwoman Malone Marshall?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Thank you Madam Mayor, I just wanted to mention that, you know I live on Hobbie and this street has constantly been left untouched. We did have a repair on the street, years ago, at which time it still didn't fix the problem that was here for the drainage, but I would just like to note that, like, Alderman Tetters said. There's so much traffic on hobby. Until, if it doesn't get some type of repair done to it, it won't be able to be used by as it is now for the trucks and all of the traffic that comes through, if we just continue to leave that as it is. Thank you Madam Mayor.

NEIL PIGGUSH: And just to clear something up. We are scheduled to go out to bid next year on this project, probably sometime in the fall, but that's what we're anticipating based on how quickly the easement acquisition goes but that's our anticipated time for you to start construction next fall or winter.

ALD PRUDE: Yes, Madam Mayor. To piggyback on what Alderman

Tetter said and Alderwoman Malone Marshall. I have been in this area for all of my life. And this street has been a problem all of my life. Money has been going in other wards for so long. It is about time to put money over in our neighborhood to the stuff that need to be taken care of, like Alderman Tetter said, there's health issues, and other things going on. And I think it's time that we take care of the first ward that hasn't been done in 60 years, so it's time that we take care of that. We've been worried about other wards for too long and it's time to starting to worry about our ward. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright, so I'm just gonna give some background. First of all, the city of Kankakee is part of the MPO. Neil jump in if I miss misstate something. MPO is the Metropolitan Planning Organization and it's the city of Kankakee, Kankakee County and Aroma Park, Bradley, Bourbonnais, and Manteno. Did I get everybody Niel? We are all lumped in together as a region and we are funded with federal dollars for transportation projects and these projects have regional impact. So the city of Kankakee has been waiting for 12 years for this project. It has finally come up. It is funded by Federal Highway dollars at 80%. So we're looking at approximately, is it like a \$6 million project to do Hobbie?

NEIL PIGGUSH: Yeah, I think its \$6 million, it's what the last estimate was.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. So, our cost savings cost is going to be 20% of that. So we've waited 12 years, it makes no sense to give back \$4 plus million dollars to the Federal Highway. All of our wards are important in the city of Kankakee. However, this touches two wards the 1st and the 7th wards, the north and the east side of Kankakee. We started having a conversation around, equity, when we started looking at the cannabis legislation. This is an example of where there has been a lack of equity in terms of where resources I've been allocated in the city. So this part of the community has been neglected. As you've heard from two people who live in the ward who've lived there for decades and that ward floods with heavy rains. There's stagnant water that stands it floods, and we have heavy rains on Hobbie Ave. There are business owners they use it, trucks, is this the main thoroughfare to get to the eastern part of Kankakee county is Hobbie Avenue, people coming in from Bradley, truck traffic, there's residential neighborhoods there, there's

businesses there, and significant drainage issues, and this has been going on for decades, so no one is saying that any other Ward is not important, but this is a regional project has regional impact not only for multiple wards in the city of Kankakee, but also for Bradley's, surrounding municipality. So I just want to be clear that we've waited 12 years on this and that we are looking at millions of dollars to have this funded through the federal government. I also want to note that part of this project is to put in lighting. That was that is going to improve public safety everybody on city council was concerned about public safety. When we looked at our data for gun violence, the wards that have the most gun violence are the second board. The 1st Ward, which is Hobby Avenue and Ward 7, which is Hobbie Avenue. You cannot continuously over decades, not invest in communities, watch them deteriorate, watch infrastructure crumble, watch housing values go down, that is systemic racism. You can't continue to do that and then wonder why there's crime in the 1st and 7th Wards, and wonder why there's gun violence and wonder why there's these other issues. You have to invest in neighborhoods. So no one is trying to take anything away from the other Wards. So, this impacts all of the city, and impacts outside of the city. And we have an opportunity right now because we've been waiting 12 years on this project to get something done. So it's going to be reimbursed 80% and as Neil said we have to have somewhere to pay for it upfront, because the reimbursement lags behind a few months, so that's why MFT was allocated. The other thing when we talked about going to the markets to buy for additional capital money. I recommended 1.2 million to each ward, so that you ward pairs can figure out those areas that needs some attention. I did that because you all complained Alderman Osenga and I don't mean that disrespectfully, you have mentioned several times, every time Hobbie Avenue comes up you take an issue with that. So to try to be responsive to you and some of your counterparts on Council in the community that contact us about potholes, the residents in the second Ward with the apartments that River, I've talked to Alderwoman Gall and Alderman O'Brian, parking last week (*inaudible*) I tried to come up with a solution to address those concerns as some of you still didn't want that solution either. So, I don't know what else you want me to do. But we could it makes no sense to continue to disinvest in these parts of the city. And we've been waiting 12 years on this project, and we have money

to cover 80% of it, it makes no sense to not support this project. Alderman Crawford?

ALD CRAWFORD:

I have one question and I don't know how the MPO works. Does other municipalities have to vote on a project or a city to use that MPO money or is it automatically coming to us after 12 years?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So they have a ranking system and Neil feel free to jump in. They changed the way that they rank the projects, I believe last year that happened. Okay and Hobbie, I believe, was number one so it's our turn. They want us to say that well we don't take turns but Hobbie, is the one that scored, got the most points in terms of the need in terms of the regional impact. And so that's why we are at the top of the list right now. Some of my counterparts from the other municipalities in a meeting that I was not at did try to defund the money for this, and I appealed to all of them what I just said, it's been 12 years, the city's been waiting on this, and it's not fair to our residents in the city of Kankakee to do that and so they restored that funding. So the members of the MPO do vote Alderman Crawford, the members of the MPO.

ALD CRAWFORD:

Okay, so that puts so that puts us at number one on the list for the next project then?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Which is this project. Correct.

ALD CRAWFORD:

Okay, thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: You're welcome.

ALD OSENGA:

How much money is in MPO fund currently, how much money is available for this project?

NEIL PIGGUSH:

I think there's \$6 million right now in the fund. I'd have to check. I don't know what off the top of my head.

ALD OSENGA:

Did it take the vast majority of that to redo the intersection over by CSL Behring.

NEIL PIGGUSH:

Yeah, well that's an IDOT route. There was talk about spending money on that but that's not what the intention of these funds are for. Never has MPO funds been used on an IDOT project. These reimbursements these federal dollars

that the each of the local agencies get that are part of the MPO are for their local roads, so it wouldn't. To me, it wouldn't make a lot of sense to be taking federal dollars that we're getting for local roads and use them as a match on an IDOT project when it's their responsibility to maintain that road and if they need to upgrade it and that's, to me that's on IDOT as well.

ALD OSENGA: So when we're gonna we're gonna get our MFT money back after this project is completed.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Correct.

ALD OSENGA: How long before this project is going to be completed?

NEIL PIGGUSH: As I said, late fall early winter next year. It's kind of the plan. So, it's probably going to be an 18 month project I would guess given we're starting late in the year.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So it sounds like 2022 for completion?

NEIL PIGGUSH: Likely, yes.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Summer 2022.

ALDERMAN OSENGA: Okay

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alderman Tetter?

ALD TETTER: Thank you Your Honor. One last note is that during the last Heavy rain we had. I remember seeing a senior that was stranded, could not get out of their residence because the water was knee high level. The police had to block off Hobbie. Our Code Department and our ESU could not even navigate the waters. I'm telling you I used to live on Evergreen and we used to literally transport stranded people in boats on Hobbie. I just need the Council to understand. This is very, very serious, it's important that we do this to...that role needs to be, it needs to be improved, and it's long, long, long overdue. So I just asked you all to just be considerate. That's all Your Honor. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Alright. Alderwoman Malone Marshall?

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: Thank you Madam Mayor, and I just wanted to also state that I have myself, I have existed over here, and I have drove down the sidewalk many of nights, many of

mornings going to work because I could not get a could not drive on the road here on Hobbie. And I just want everyone to understand that we'd never felt the effect of it as it is now as an adult, because as children, we played in the water and we thought it was funny. Even my neighbor's that left here from Kankakee when I mention the floods, they always get on Facebook and say about how we played in the water, how rowed in boats in the water and all of that here on Hobbie. This has been a problem for years it's not something that's new with this administration. So, I really appreciate you Mayor standing up at the MPO when they were trying to move the project, and I appreciate any other Council, people for allowing the Hobbie Project to continue to be on our agenda. Thank you.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you. All right, we are going to go to a Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS:

AYES: Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall
Faford, Swanson, Crawford, O'Brien,
Malone Marshall, Prude

NAYS: Osenga

ABSTAIN: Gall

(12) Ayes (1) Nays (1) Abstention

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 12G Appointments. So we're getting a little ahead of ourselves. On the Motion of Resolutions you guys will see tonight in your packet the land bank, as you know, we secured a grant for equals about \$154,000 to form a land bank we've been working with the county for several months to get this done. So, that is coming up but Item G is for appointments, I have to appoint three people to the land bank.

ITEM 12G:

1. Barbie Brewer-Watson – Executive Director of ECDA
Kankakee Land Bank Authority.

2. Mike Hoffman- Consulting City Planner
Kankakee Land Bank Authority

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I need one more person so if there's anybody that you all think would be a good fit for the Kankakee Land Bank Authority. Each send me an email and let me know but at this time I'm asking to appoint Barbie and Mike Hoffman and for the sake of time I'll go ahead and combine them if There is no objection.

ALD SWANSON: I would like to make the motion to appoint Barbie and Mike Hoffman to the Kankakee Land Bank Authority.

ALD PRUDE: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Swanson and Seconded by Alderman Prude. Any discussion? Again, the city gets to Appoint three. I believe the county gets to a appoint three and then there's somebody else. Correct, Mike Hoffman?

MIKE HOFFMAN: There is three and three.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Alright. Any discussion. Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 13 under Motion and Resolutions.

ITEM 13A: Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement and By-Laws to Establish the Kankakee Land Bank Authority

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Barbie I'm going to turn that over to you very quickly for a brief update.

BARBIE BREWER-WATSON: Thank you Mayor. We have talked about the land bank and forming the land bank for over a year now. The Community Development Committee is approving of this as well, and would like this to pass tonight. And we've been working with the county on its first step, the next step, you'll be working through their committee and their board in the month of October, and appoint their people and then we will start the KT cable and big authority. And again, this will help us with blighted vacant abandoned properties and put them through the land bank process, so they can get viable back on the tax rolls. And this will help us with neighborhood stabilization. Thanks Mayor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Thank you Barbie. So, this is a tool for us to take these

vacant lots vacant properties and put them to use repurpose them. Alderwoman Swanson?

ALD SWANSON: I would like to make a motion to approve the resolution.

ALD TETTER: Second Your Honor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Swanson and Seconded by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion? Okay. Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall, Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 13B.

ITEM 13B: Resolution Authorizing the Interlocal Agreement between the City of Kankakee Illinois and the County of Kankakee Illinois for the 2020 Byrne Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: I will defer to Chief Kosman at this time.

CHIEF KOSMAN: Good evening Mayor, members of the Council. This resolution would authorize the execution of the application for the awarded Justice Assistance grant. It is referred to as a disparate grant which means we have to share the funding that for the grant from the federal government with the county. So it's not just us so what are we in inter government agreement, saying that we would accept the grant and then have to share the some of the funds with the county. It's the total amount is \$14,084 we'd have to give to the county then \$6,693 which we would then keep \$7,391 that we would utilize for improving technology and communications in our squad cars. We've done it in previous years.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Alright, may I have a motion to approve the resolution? Alderman Osenga?

ALD OSENGA: So move.

ALD BROWN: Second.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Osenga and Seconded by

Alderman Brown. Any discussion? Okay. Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall
Faford, Swanson, Crawford, Osenga, O'Brien, Gall,
Malone Marshall, Prude
(14) Ayes (0) Nays

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. Moving on to Item 13C.

ITEM 13C: Supplemental Resolution for Improvement Under the
Illinois Highway Code in the Amount of \$105,000 for the
Hobbie Avenue Reconstruction Project.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Neil, I'll defer to you.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Thank you Mayor, this is just the authorizing resolution
from MFT funds for the previous agreement that was just
approved for Hobbie Avenue.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion to approve.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL: So move Madam Mayor.

ALD TETTER: Second Your Honor.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderwoman Malone Marshall and Seconded
by Alderman Tetter. Any discussion? Alderman Osenga?

ALD OSENGA: Where this \$105,000 gonna come from?

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: He just indicated in MFT and it'll be reimbursed. Any
other discussion? For the community there's motor fuel
taxes that's the tax that you pay at the gas pump when you
purchase the gasoline. But again reimbursable 80%. Okay.
Roll Call.

CLERK DUMAS: **AYES:** Tetter, Brown, Curtis, Cobbs, Lewis, Tall
Faford, Swanson, Crawford, O'Brien, Gall,
Malone Marshall, Prude
NAYS: Osenga
ABSTAIN: Gall
(12) Ayes (1) Nays (1) Abstention

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motion carries. And then, Item 14, we have no need for an

Executive Session. Item 15, no need for action resulting from Executive Session. Item 16 City Council Member Comments.

ALDERMEN AND ALDERWOMEN COMMENTS

ALD PRUDE:

Yes, Mayor. First of all, I want to let everybody know that this coming Saturday is our 1st Ward Back to School Bash anybody is welcome to be a part of that. Secondly, I've been getting constant calls from my constituents in the Junction area about the shooting, that's going on out there. One family next to the one houses that's causing that, they are really concerned about that. I know also that the nuisance abatement has been taking care of. Letters that have went out for evacuated but because of this COVID its hard to put them out. And I just think that there's some way we need to do something to protect those people out there that lives in that area that has to deal with this high crime that's going on out there so I don't know what we can do, but we need to do something about that. Thirdly, I find it very dishearting that someone would not care about the health of the people in our neighborhood flooding and against something that is about health issues to our constituents all over the city of Kankakee. Okay, I keep thinking if it was their Ward they would be fighting for very hard. That's all I got.

ALD TALL:

Yes, going back to the Fortitude St. Paul's vote. I voted yes to suspend the rules. I think the vote came down at 12 to 2 but my vote was a yes vote to suspend the rules.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Are you saying there needs to be a correction?

ALD TALL:

Yes.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Anjanita, you got it? Are you good Anjanita?

CLERK DUMAS:

Yes, I will make a notation.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay. Thank you Alderman Tall.

ALD MALONE MARSHALL:

Thank you Madam Mayor, I just want to, I find everybody to come out to the 1st Ward Back to School bash on Saturday. We will be exercising social distancing and masks will be required. So, bring your lawn chairs so we

can spread out, we'll have music, and the children will be given, school supplies.

ALD CURTIS:

So yes, there's two items we have the taxi application, and the second item is, we need to review the gaming ordinance. There's an old ordinance for many years ago, and we passed that new ordinance I believe probably 18 months ago or so, we need to work through that because there may be conflicting with each other we got to figure out how we want to move forward with that so if everyone can that's on the committee or, frankly, all the alderman if we can get Thursday, we've got a couple of items that we need to have action. And then the second thing I just wanted to Alderman Prude and I guess this would be to Chief Kosman. Would it help if we have one of our cameras there, and you just have a camera sitting by that house that is a nuisance right now (*inaudible*) at all times 24/7 and detour a little bit until something can be done in the Junction area that you're talking about.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Chief Kosman, I think that's more directed towards you.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

One of the problems that we have is one of our cameras that we have has gone down. And so we have to we only have one now. And then it's like \$12,000 to repair. I don't know where that that second one, so we're looking for other options about doing that. And one of the options that our ATF Force, and see what kind of possible surveillance help they can give us with equipment in that area. That is effectively been checked into.

ALD CURTIS:

I'm just throwing out ideas to help.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

Right, it's doing cameras we tried talking with the Sherwin Williams plant about there they have an angle looking down, we've talked to them but they didn't want to have one of their security cameras looking down that way which would be kind of far anyway. But, so we're looking for other options where we can do with other options having a camera system up there.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: The issue with COVID-19, because the State has put a moratorium on evictions. A situation like this, impact that is there a way to get around that?

CHIEF KOSMAN: I understand from talking with the state's attorney there is a problem on Lincoln Street too, why we haven't been able to move forward with that.

ALD BROWN: Public Safety tomorrow afternoon 5:30 P.M.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Okay, moving on to Department Head updates.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

BARBIE BREWER-WATSON: I want to remind everybody about the census. No matter what keep sharing the census information make a video encourage your people, your friends, your family, take the census, census, census, census.

NEIL PIGGUSH: I don't know if anybody's seen but a street maintenance started last week they're doing all the concrete work first. So, you will probably start to see them once the weather breaks, they should be out there again this week. It will probably take three to four weeks to complete that work. As Alderman Curtis stated, we've been working with Nicor on this alley project since May or June. Finally, they're going to be out there this week to pothole and hopefully we can get out there and get this alley project completed it's kind of holding up everything we have to cross it with our storm sewer so. So that's hopefully moving soon and we can get that project going.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: That's in the 4th Ward, correct?

NEIL PIGGUSH: Correct. The Safe Routes to School project we're having our pre construction conference with IDOT next week via WebEx. So, we'll hopefully have a little better idea of schedule for that project. And then, see here, East Ridge Drive we're still working on we you know we were kind of in a little bit of a holding pattern while they were figuring out their financing but it sounds like things are going to ramp up here pretty quickly.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: That's the Ricky Rockets project so the community knows.

NEIL PIGGUSH: Correct. So we, we did have like a pre preliminary geometric plan and working through planning profiles, but we wanted to wait to get information from Ricky Rockets on their revised site layout before we did any sort of furthering of the design. And then Francine Drive we've got

the topographic survey drawn up this is the 7th Ward project that they elected to defer \$65,000 of their MFT money this year towards next year. So we're working on that project now and we should be starting to design here shortly.

STEVE BERTRAND:

Everything is going smoothly the library. I'm happy to report that since we've been in our walk-in services only. We've regained about three quarters of our service statistics. So we're getting very close back to what our normal statistics are so everything's going pretty well at the library.

CHIEF KOSMAN:

I guess it's not too early to say our eligibility list to be expiring in January, so we do have a date now for actually the risk tests, it's going to be November 21st. So, we'll be starting (*inaudible*) recruit a large number of candidates for our police department.

JASMYNE HUMBLE:

Thank you Mayor. I just want to remind everyone that our city of Kankakee updates, you can subscribe to on our website. We have been getting some people who've been subscribing to our city newsletters, so that's really good news. I just want to remind everyone you can subscribe to get those monthly updates on our city website at www.citykankakee-il.gov Barbie already mentioned census. We did post census events on our website as well. This Saturday we have a lot of events happening; Mingle with the Mayor is at Station Street Cafe this Saturday from 11:30 to 1:00pm. The 1st Ward Back to School Bash, I know Alderwoman Malone Marshall and Alderman Prude touched on that is that is at Old Fair Park Saturday from 2:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M. Also, there is a Mexican Independence Day Celebration at St Paul Catholic Parish. That is also this Saturday. So, all those events are on our website as well. I want to remind people to keep checking our events, there's so many events happening outdoors with social distancing. Also, we are talking about hosting another Light Up The Night Bike Ride. A lot of people are wanting to know if we're going to do that again. We are working the details to finalize that with our Police Department. There will be one another one coming up the end of this month on the Saturday so those details can be released later this week as well with social distancing. That's all I have.

PETE SCHIEL:

Just a few quick updates, just wanted to thank everybody for their patience getting through this recent storm. DPW is finalizing some of those efforts. They're doing a lot of tough grinding out at the old starlight drive in. So, we ended up renting some additional equipment to take care of that debris. Not only that but the Sewer Department did diligent efforts and making sure that a lot of the community was not backing up during those time, put in many, many hours to make sure that everybody was safe. Next item is the barrier on Indiana Avenue was completed today by Jaenicke's where the young man, unfortunately, went through that barrier so that was completed today. Also, this weekend the 200 Block of East River Street by the Brant property and the high rise was cleared to give a nice visual access to the river. So, I just wanted to share that information.

ELIZABETH KUBAL:

Just real quick. We will keep everyone informed as the bond process goes along. It should move quite quickly at this point and time. Mayor alluded to it but I just wanted to let to you know that we will keep communication with you all.

MAYOR'S UPDATES

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: A couple things, I just want to remind everyone if you have not taken the survey for the Kankakee River Front, please do so. We have posted the link on the website and on link. We really want to get everybody's input. We are going to have some outreach starting tomorrow. We have some activities going on. Census block parties Barbie said census, census, census. It is now due by September 30th so it's really critical we get the word out. Census funding helps us with Head Start programs, education, infrastructure so when you are talking about potholes, health services, our library which provides services. It's really important. Rachel has put together a script to ask city council members if you all can record a short video and post it on your own page because it's going to reach your network and then tag the city of Kankakee so that we can share it as well. So, we are trying to reach as many people as possible so if you can a quick video and encourage people to take the census and why it's important, reminding people that September 30th is the deadline. There are a number of census block parties that have been scheduled. Those are also available on the website for

updates in terms of times and locations. The Civilian Review Board-Chief Kosman is going to be talking to Public Safety tomorrow. He's done some research, I have asked him to look into this matter and he's going to be sharing some information with Public Safety. So please provide feedback to him and to me as far as your thoughts on that as we move forward. Fast Track Grant we did secure \$1.8 million dollars with no match from the city and we're really excited about that. That grant is going to extend into the 200 and 300 block of North Schuyler. So we are really expanding and starting to branch out throughout the city. With some of the other projects we are starting to create a campus I like to call it a city campus. This will extend 2 blocks north. It's part of downtown again equity is an issue many people didn't know that because we always invested in 200 South so it's really important that we capture all of downtown. I want to thank the team especially Neil who wrote that grant to get \$1.8 million dollars for the city. Neil, where are we at in terms of next steps? I know I signed a letter for (DCEO) Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

NEIL PIGGUSH:

Yes Mayor, we submitted all the special grant conditions that we in the finalist document so now we are waiting on (*inaudible*) the environmental review guidelines for these grants. It sounds like they are going to be different from the (*inaudible*) normal grants that they administer. They said some time mid-September so we won't get an (*inaudible*) grant agreement until we settle all the environmental documents.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: So we are moving forward with that. The last thing, I just want to remind everybody, again I keep bringing up equity. I mean really, it kind of got heated with cannabis. I know some of you were doing some reading and education on this and I appreciate that but we really have to be mindful and how we make decisions in terms of our policies and how we allocate money in our community because it speaks to what we value and if we don't invest in certain parts of our community we are saying we don't value the people that live over there. So, I just want you to keep that on your radar. I'm going to continue to address it as we move forward. I don't have anything else. This is the longest meeting we have had. I have heard horror stories about city council going into the wee hours of the morning and we have never done that. So, I want to thank all of you

for your patience tonight, for tuning in and to the City Council for your work as well. May I have a motion to adjourn?

ADJOURNMENT

ALD COBBS: So move Mayor.

ALD CRAWFORD: Second

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Motioned by Alderman Cobbs and Seconded by Alderman Crawford. Before we adjourn I want to thank the Department Heads as well. I did not mean to exclude you guys. Thank you so much for all the work you do and for all committees. We have a motion and a second. All in favor?

COUNCIL: Aye.

MAYOR WELLS-ARMSTRONG: Opposed same sign? Motion carries. We are adjourned.